

Defensible Space	Requirements	Recommendations	Comments
Zone 1: Structure Protection	<p>*Remove all non-decomposing pine needles & flammable ground materials and activity slash. *Remove all ladder fuels.</p> <p>*Min. 10 feet between crowns of native trees or "clumps" (max.4 trees/clump). Does not apply to ornamentals. *Prune all species except ornamentals 15' above ground 25% whichever is less.</p> <p>*Remove branches within 15' of chimney.</p>	<p>*Minimize flammable native trees in this zone.</p> <p>*Maintain non-combustible ground material 2-3 feet around structure (Planting beds, rock gardens, gravel or bare soil).</p>	<p>Consultation with the property owner will explain the "blended eye" assessment of the property for an added value.</p>
<p>0-10 feet from structure or deck</p>	<p>*Remove flammable material from roof and gutters.</p> <p>*Removal of any tree >16" DBH requires permit.</p> <p>*Development <i>(in any zone: 1, 2, 3, or 4)</i> resulting in basal area (BA) densities below original square footage per acre or minimum square footage per acre per this section (see <i>zones 3 & 4 below</i>) shall include replacement trees at the rate approved by the Director.</p> <p>All trees planted as replacements for basal area (BA) loss as part of site development in all zones shall have drip irrigation or the like watering systems and shall be two (2) inches or greater at one (1) foot above root collar.</p> <p>*Slash Treatment: 1) No flammable material including wood chips allowed except as mulch in individual planting wells <i>(see forestry terms for sizing of planting wells)</i>; 2) No firewood stacked unless under approved cover; 3) No standing dead.</p>	<p>*Prune native tree limbs overhanging roof.</p> <p>*Bedding plants (<18" high).</p> <p>*Consider xeriscape and non-flammable landscape material (ex. do not use railroad ties, wood fencing etc).</p> <p><i>*(see forestry terms for definition of xeriscape. Proper xeriscape and planting wells minimizes "rocks and gravel" appearance and emphasizes native plant combinations and drip irrigation).</i></p>	<p>Using this "added value" approach landscape elements and forest health issues, as well as fire hazard reduction, will be considered. The property owner can better achieve his land objectives.</p> <p>NOTE: Five "native trees" considered here are Ponderosa pine, Pinon pine, Douglas fir, White fir, and all Junipers. Blue Spruce and fruit trees considered ornamentals. Deciduous broadleaf trees like Gambels oak must be pruned as per zone, but not considered for spacing.</p> <p>For additional forest management see Sec. 54-133.</p>
Zone 2: Defensible Space	<p>*Remove all non-decomposing pine needles and flammable ground materials and activity slash. *Remove all ladder fuels.</p>	<p>*Maintain low combustible ground covers.</p>	
<p>10-30 feet from structure or deck</p>	<p>*Min. 10' between crowns of native trees or "clumps" (max.5 trees/clump). Does not apply to ornamentals.</p> <p>*Prune all species except ornamentals min.10' from ground or 25% of tree height which ever is less.</p> <p>*10 - 15' between planting islands & groups of shrubs.</p> <p>*Removal of any tree >16" DBH requires permit.</p> <p>*Slash Treatment: 1) No untreated wood chips allowed except in drip irrigated or the like planting wells <i>(see forestry terms for sizing of planting wells)</i>;</p> <p>2) No firewood stacked within 20' of structures unless under approved cover. Firewood stacked outside 20' must not create nuisance.</p> <p>3)Beetle habitat reduction per Sec. 54-133(f);</p> <p>4) No standing dead.</p>	<p>*Keep lawns watered (as conditions allow).</p> <p>*Consider xeriscape planting beds, rock gardens, xeriscaping and fire resistant plants.</p> <p>*Bedding plants (<18" high).</p> <p>*Consider non-flammable landscape material.</p> <p><i>*(see forestry terms for definition of xeriscape. Proper xeriscape and planting wells minimizes "rocks and gravel" appearance and emphasizes native plant combinations and drip irrigation).</i></p>	<p>In both Zone 1 and 2 attention will be paid to the potential threat posed by creeping and spot fire behavior.</p> <p>It's highly likely, given the number of lots 1/4 acre and less, that this zone will often overlap with neighboring property defensible space. It's also likely that assessments in areas with higher densities will be looked at as "neighborhoods" rather than individual properties.</p> <p>Individual consultations will occur in every case. Lots <1/4 acre are dealing with zone 1 & 2 for the most part.</p>

Village of Ruidoso Sec. 42-80 Fuels Management Standards page 2 *(informational items in italics)*

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Zone 3: Forest Woodland 30-60 feet from structure or deck	<p>*Max densities for target vegetation: Pondo pine - 60 sq.ft.BA *Mixed Conifer - 60 sq.ft.BA *Pinon/Juniper - 20 sq.ft.BA .</p> <p>Minimum densities for target vegetation: Ponderosa pine - 40sq.ft. BA; Mixed conifer – 40sq.ft. BA; Pinon/Juniper – 20sq.ft. BA.</p> <p>*Remove all ladder fuels. *10 - 15' between crowns of native trees or "clumps" (max. 6 trees/clump). *10 - 15' between planting islands.</p> <p>*Prune all species except ornamentals min. 6' from ground or 25% of tree height which ever is less.</p> <p>*Removal of any tree >16" DBH requires permit.</p> <p>*Slash Treatment: 1) If used, max. depth of wood chips is 2 inches; 2) Firewood stacks must not create nuisance. Beetle habitat reduction per Sec. 54-133(f); 3) No standing dead except optional three (3) non-hazardous, standing dead trees >12" DBH per acre allowed for wildlife habitat; 4) All non-decomposing ground debris > 5" diameter must be removed. 5) Remove all activity slash.</p>	<p>*Remove all non-decomposing pine needles and flammable ground materials.</p> <p>*Additional fuels reduction: *Ponderosa pine - 40 sq.ft.BA *Mixed Conifer - 40 sq.ft.BA *Pinon/Juniper - 20 sq.ft.BA</p> <p>*15 - 20' between stems of native trees or "clumps" (max. 6 trees/clump).</p> <p>*Prune all species min. 8 - 15' from ground or 25% of tree height which ever is less.</p> <p>*Where slopes exceed 25% approved contour felling is acceptable.</p> <p>*Forestry Department can explain BA (basal area) density and help calculate.</p>	<p>During the lot assessment, the property owner will be advised of the different marking prescriptions that will achieve the requirements but could result in different aesthetics (multi-story, even aged, park-like, etc.). The property owner will decide.</p> <p>Zones 1, 2 & 3 constitute the minimum requirements around structures regardless of lot size. These zones have much to do with the ignitability of a structure and individual protection.</p>
Zone 4: Property Perimeter Buffer (includes vacant and site development projects) 60 feet – from structure out to the property line.	<p>*Max densities for target vegetation: Ponderosa pine - 80 sq.ft BA *Mixed Conifer - 90 sq.ft.BA *Pinon/Juniper - 50 sq.ft.BA Minimum densities for target vegetation: Ponderosa pine - 40sq.ft. BA; Mixed conifer – 40sq.ft. BA; Pinon/Juniper – 20sq.ft. BA.</p> <p>*Remove all ladder fuels. *10 - 15' between crowns of native trees or "clumps" (max.7 trees/clump). *10 - 15' between planting islands.</p> <p>*Prune all species except ornamentals min. 6' from ground or 25% of tree height which ever is less. *Removal of any tree >16" DBH requires permit.</p> <p>*Slash Treatment: 1) If used, max. depth of wood chips is 2 inches; 2) Firewood stacks must not create nuisance. Beetle habitat reduction as per 54-133(f); 3) No standing dead except optional three (3) non-hazardous, standing dead trees >12" DBH per acre allowed for wildlife habitat; 4) All non-decomposing ground debris >5" diameter must be removed. A maximum of three (3) downed logs greater than 12" in diameter per acre are allowed for wildlife habitat. 5) All activity slash within 120' of all structures, property lines, & roads on slopes > 40% must be removed.</p> <p>Alternative activity slash treatments may be approved by Director.</p>	<p>*Additional fuels reduction: *Ponderosa pine - 40 sq.ft.BA *Mixed Conifer - 60 sq.ft.BA *Pinon/Juniper - 20 sq.ft.BA</p> <p>*Prune all species min. 8 - 15' from ground or 25% of tree height which ever is less.</p> <p>*Consider coordination with neighboring properties.</p> <p>*Recommend treatment of entire property.</p> <p>*Where slopes exceed 25% approved contour felling is acceptable.</p> <p>*Forestry Department can explain BA (basal area) density and help calculate.</p>	<p>Treatment in this zone addresses wildfire rate of spread and intensity and firefighter safety.</p> <p>A property owner with < 2.5 acres is required to treat all of the property. A property owner with > 2.5 acres is required to implement Zones 1, 2, & 3 around any structures > 50 sq.ft. out to 60 feet. In addition, property owner shall create a buffer zone as described in zone 4. This buffer zone now starts at the property line and comes in 120 feet minimum.</p> <p>All commercial site development and subdivision approvals require treatment on all of the property.</p>